

REMARKS

Claims 1–20 are pending in the application and are presented for further substantive examination on the merits.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1–20 were subjected to an Election of Species Requirement.

By this Response to Election of Species Requirement, an election without traverse is made.

ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT SUMMARY

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed species under PCT Rule 13. Claims 1–20 were subjected to an Election of Species Requirement as follows:

Species 1 shown in figures 1 and 2,
Species 2 shown in figures 5 and 6;
Species 3 shown in figures 7 and 8;
Species 4 shown in figure 9;
Species 5 shown in figures 10 and 11; and
Species 6 shown in figures 12A and 12B.

The Examiner further asserted that the claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

Species 1 includes claims 2 and 3;
Species 2 includes claim 4;
Species 3 includes claim 14;
Species 5 includes claims 12 and 13; and

“Species 4 and 7 [sic] do not have claims directed specifically to them and are covered by the generic claims.”

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 5–11 and 15–20 are generic.

ELECTION OF INVENTION

Applicants elect to continue prosecution of Species 5, figures 10 and 11, encompassing claims 12 and 13. This election is made without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation/divisional applications based on the non-elected inventions and claims.

CONCLUSION

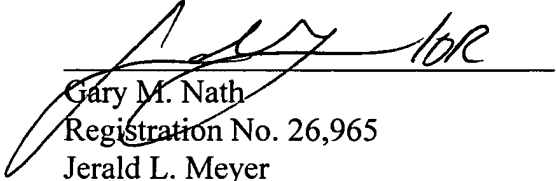
In view of the preceding election, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for a first substantive examination, and further prosecution of the application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for substantive examination, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

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